

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. During the Geneva Conference, which ended on 23 July 1955, there was considerable optimism in Bucharest. The local populace as a whole believed that the Soviets were on the point of leaving the city. The most extraordinary rumors circulated, including the following:
 - a. A "transition" government of a Socialist type would take over the country.
 - b. Gheorghe Tatarescu had received authorization to reconstitute the Liberal Party.
 - c. Grigore Gafencu, former Rumanian diplomat now in exile, had been in Bucharest for several days.
 - d. Soviet convoys had left for the Soviet frontier by way of Bucharest-Urziceni¹.
2. When the Geneva Conference ended, the citizens of Bucharest soon lost all hope and confidence. However, three days later, an incident occurred which again inspired hope and gave rise to new speculations: Soviet civilians and their families, who were occupants of the apartment building "Wilson" on Boulevard Nicolae Balcescu, evacuated the premises. A Soviet detachment first encircled the building and had orders to permit no one to leave. At two o'clock in the morning, all Soviet occupants were loaded with their luggage into 16 to 18 Soviet military trucks. They then left for an unknown destination.

1. Comment: There actually was a movement of Soviet troops at this time; they left in the direction of Urziceni.

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